FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 JUNE 1985

Hostage Crisis; Lebanon

The Amal movement has stated that it may abandon its role as a mediator in 7 to 10 days if there are no developments in the situation, Beirut radio announced early 25 June. Amal leader Nabih Birri had earlier added another condition for the release of the TWA airliner passengers, demanding that the U.S. fleet stay away from Lebanese shores, according to the radio. He claimed that a U.S. pledge signed in 1982 commits the United States to asking Israel for the release of the Lebanese detainees.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio viewed Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' proposal for U.S.-Israeli cooperation in the crisis as an indication that Israel may be willing to release its Shi'ite prisoners in response to a U.S. appeal, adding that the release of detainees will continue in the wake of the freeing of 31 Lebanese on 24 June. Preparations are underway for the release of several dozen more detainees from 'Atlit, according to the Tel Aviv paper *HA'ARETZ*.

Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on the hostage crisis at a Damascus news conference reported by SANA, reaffirming Iran's denial of any involvement in the hijacking and stating that he has no knowledge of the hijackers' identity. The Majlis speaker said his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad produced "good, positive results." During his stay in Damascus, Hashemi-Rafsanjani held meetings with prominent Lebanese and Syrian clergymen, members of Hezbollah and the Amal movement, and leaders of the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF), according to Tehran radio. Iran's condemnation of the sectarian feuds in Beirut was a major theme of his remarks and he told the PNSF leaders that it is a "crime" to take away weapons from those Palestinians who want to fight Israel, adding that Iran will give "top priority" to the Palestine question as soon as the war with Iraq ends.

As for Syria's position on the hostage crisis, Damascus radio cited an *AL-BA'TH* editorial that condemned the hijacking but warned the United States against attempting a military operation "using the hijacked airliner as a pretext."

In other developments in Beirut, Al-Murabitun groups continued to attack Amal movement positions 24 June, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also linked a Syrian summons for Nabih Birri to visit Damascus 25 June with Syria's efforts to reconcile the feuding factions in West Beirut. Meanwhile, Internal Security Forces began deploying inside the Palestinian camps early 25 June, Beirut radio noted.

Syria-USSR

A Damascus radio commentary on President al-Asad's visit to Moscow denied reports of Soviet-Syrian differences on the Palestinian issue, contending that the Soviet Union and Syria hold "identical" views on "the moves by 'Arafat and his gang" and on U.S. attempts to drag Jordan and the PLO into a new Camp David agreement. Al-Asad's visit was a "great and important achievement," the radio added, and its results will "soon emerge on the ground."

Jordan

Amman's *SAWT AL-SHA'B* denied a recent Kuwaiti press report about the presence of Egyptian forces in Jordan, viewing it as one of several "fabricated and false" stories in the Arab press concerning military activities in Jordan.

Egypt

Relations With Sudan — Foreign Ministry official Usamah al-Baz reaffirmed Egypt's opposition to extraditing former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri in remarks cited by MENA, stressing that President Husni Mubarak is adhering to Egypt's tradition of refusing to surrender political refugees "under any circumstances." Al-Baz, who was speaking in Khartoum after delivering a message from Mubarak to Sudanese leader General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, affirmed Egypt's view that neither Numayri's extradition nor any other matter that could affect bilateral relations should be raised, and he added that Egypt will "not deal with" ideas that "seek to incite an estrangement" between Egypt and Sudan. The Egyptian official stated that dialogue and consultations are continuing between the two countries, which are committed to their "eternal and fateful relationship," though he noted that integration is "not vital," being "only one aspect of this relationship, and not its crux."

Relations With Iraq — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan arrived in Cairo 25 June, announcing that he will deliver a message to Mubarak from President Saddam Husayn and that he hopes to conclude several bilateral agreements during his 3-day visit, MENA reported.

Iran-Iraq War; Gulf Shipping

Iranian forces killed or wounded at least 50 soldiers from an Iraqi battalion that launched an unsuccessful attack on Iranian positions on the southern front early 24 June, IRNA claimed. Meanwhile, Iranian artillery pounded Iraqi SAM launching pads west of the Tigris River, according to an Iranian commander cited by the agency.

As for the Kuwaiti cargo vessel detained by the Iranian Navy 20 June, an Iranian official announced that Iran will "take a proper decision" about the ship after thoroughly inspecting its cargo, IRNA reported. In a related report, the *GULF DAILY NEWS* noted that Kuwait has begun high-level contacts with Iran over the vessel.

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Kabul Reports on Rebels Killed in Takhar Province

LD241726 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] The BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY, quoting a source of the security forces in Takhar Province, reports that as a result of successful operations carried out recently by the security forces in that province, a number of savage rebels belonging to a so-called Eslami band were crushed, including three of their leaders, Molla Bahaoddin, Haji Kabir and Mansab, and many were captured. Weapons and ammunition were also seized from these criminals.

Clashes Between Rebel Bands in Pakistan Reported

LD250645 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 24, BAKHTAR — According to the reports reaching here, acute differences have appeared among the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, stationed in Pakistan, which in many cases lead to severe armed clashes between themselves. In one of such incidents, a number of the members of Sayaf band attacked in the thick of night the residents of Satar Gazagarie camp of Parachinar Agency, northwest of Pakistan. The incident resulted in the death of a member of the criminal Gulbuddin band and another one being injured.

Similarily a number of the members of Jamiat band set fire to the Zagro camp of Kurram Agency, northwest of Pakistan, and looted the property of inmates. Two members of the Jamiat band died in the incident.

'U.S.-Trained Bandits' Kill Religious Leaders

LD250703 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 24, BAKHTAR — *KABUL NEW TIMES* today described as hypocritical the attempts of the Washington leaders to pass off as "true defenders of Islam" and "best friends" of Moslem peoples.

The United States is conducting subversive activities, overt and convert, against all progressive states, including Moslem ones, pursuing independent economic and other policies, and following the path of anti-imperialist struggle, writes the paper.

For several years now Washington has been waging an undeclared war against Democratic Afghanistan and its Moslem population. It has already spent more than one billion dollars on the setting up, arming and training of counterrevolutionary formations.

The other day U.S-trained bandits exploded a bomb in a Madrasah in Herat Province, badly wounding ten youngsters. They shot to death a number of prominent religious figures. All in all, U.S. mercenaries have assassinated more than 200 mullahs (clergymen), and destroyed 254 mosques.

President Reagan has signed secret directive No 138 granting official rights to the Pentagon and U.S. special services for large-scale terrorist activities in other countries, including the Islamic ones.

Lebanon is a case in point. Crack U.S. Marines landed in that country, where Moslems account for the major part of the population.That was accompanied by U.S. warships' shelling of residential areas, in which hundreds of innocent civilians perished. It turned out later on that Lebanon was used by the Pentagon as a testing ground for new U.S. weapons, more than 100 of which were used against the people of Lebanon by the United States and Israel.

In 1980 the United States landed troops in Iran, in a bid to restore us economic, political and military-strategic positions. U.S. special services have staged several abortive coups in that country.

There is U.S. military threat looming over the countries of the Indian Ocean including Moslem ones. Thirty U.S. military bases, more than 1,000 fighters and bombers, two aircraft carriers and about 80 nuclear weapons carrying warships have been concentrated there by the United States to intimidate those countries, to bring pressure to bear on them and to subjugate them to us diktat. Such is the true face of the Washington, "friend" of the Moslem countries.

Kabul Comments on Result of U.S. 'Aid' to Rebels

LD241743 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR political commentator writes: The U.S. Congress has approved the allocation of another $10 million for the Afghan counterrevolutionaries in addition to the $15 million already allocated. These sums of $10 million, $15 million, $280 million, and finally $1.5 billion which have been given to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries by the United States, indicate the true dimension of the undeclared war unleashed by U.S. imperialism against the DRA.

Such assistance and generosity by the Reagan administration, is no surprise. However, the question arises as to how and how cunningly U.S. militarist doctrine has been implemented under the cloak of humanitarian aid in order to confuse world public opinion. This aid, Reagan's statement to the congress of the Council of U.S. National Groups [as heard], the declaration by the White House, and the confessions of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, U.S. Under Secretary of State Richard Murphy, and other partners of the Reagan administration, all show the intensification of the undeclared war against our country.

What gifts have the Afghan counterrevolutionaries bought for the people of Afghanistan with all these dollars over the last 7 years? The Afghan counterrevolution has destroyed and set on fire 1,864 schools, 33 hospitals, 11 public health centers, 906 peasants cooperatives, hundreds of transport vehicles, 14,000 km of telephone transmission lines, hundreds of power pylons, hundreds of bridges, irrigation dams, and irrigation establishments, and hundreds of harvests and agricultural prdoucts. The explosion of bombs in city buses, at Kabul International Airport, in the Pamir building, at restaurants in Kabul city, the attack on the Arina Afghan aircraft which was carrying 300 passengers,

attacks on Kabul city's residential areas by ground-to-ground missiles — in which hundreds of people have been killed — are all organized with these dollars.

The explosion at the Polytechnic Institute, the burning of Takia Khana Mosque and dozens of other mosques and sacred places, and the explosion at Herat city's Darolhefaz, which was carried out recently by the counterrevolutionaries and which resulted in the death of 10 school children, are scars of shame on the faces of those who generously provide the dollars.

This is the result of the so-called humanitarian assistance of the Reagan's administration to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

Riyadh: Mujahidin Capture Government Positions

GF230614 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin said today that their forces have tightened their control on the forward government points in the strategic Panjshir Valley in northern Afghanistan, which resulted in the killing or wounding of hundreds of government troops. The mujahidin said that their forces in Panjshir Valley stormed the outlying military positions in the valley earlier this month and that about 400 DRA troops were killed or wounded in a battle, which lasted for more than 1 week. Among those killed were two senior officers. The mujahidin were also able to capture 760 soldiers, including an Afghan Army officer.

Airport Security Tightened; Bomb Threat at Heathrow

BK250321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] Security arrangements at all the domestic airports in the country have been further tightened and the Indian missions have been asked to ensure strict security checks for all the Air India flights.

Meanwhile, an Air India plane bound for New York was delayed at London for more than 7 hours when an anonymous telephone call was received at Heathrow Airport saying that a bomb was aboard.

No trace of the bomb was found and the plane later took off for New York, 7 hours 15 minutes behind schedule.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sends Message on Crash

BK250411 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has also expressed deep sense of grief over the air crash tragedy.

In a message to the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, he said he is deeply distressed to learn of the mishap.

Further Reportage on Visit of Iranian Minister

Meets With Prime Minister

BK241621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] The Iranian first deputy foreign minister, Mr 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, met the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today and apprised him of the latest situation in his country's conflict with Iraq.

Mr Besharati is in the capital for discussions with Indian leaders on the Gulf war.

Urges Gandhi To Condemn Iraq

LD241959 Tehran IRNA in English 1842 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] New Delhi, June 24, IRNA — Iran's visiting Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, in a meeting here Monday with Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian premier and present head of the Nonaligned Movement, urged him to condemn Iraq for its attacks on civilians quarters in Iran, its deployment of chemical weapons and making sea passages unsafe.

At the meeting Besharati, on behalf of the Islamic Republic and the Iranian people voiced condolences on the catastrophic crash of an Indian airliner in which 325 passengers were reportedly killed. The Iranian deputy minister also handed a message from President Khamene'i to Mr. Gandhi.

Finance Minister Rules Out Devaluation of Rupee

BK241611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] A report on black money released by the finance minister in New Delhi today says that in 1983-84 the total amount of black money ranged between 32,000 crore and 37,000 crore rupees. This represents between 18 to 21 percent of the gross national product.

Releasing the report submitted by the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, said that the government has no intention to devalue the rupee. This is one of the recommendations made in the report.

The finance minister said that the government would formulate a package of measures after asserting the public reaction to the recommendation contained in the report. These measures will be both administrative and legislative.

PATRIOT: 'Khalistan Council' Men Arrested

BK241226 Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Jun 85 p 1

[Text] Bombay, June 20 (UNI) — Intelligence branch personnel of the Sahar International Airport today arrested two members of the so-called National Council of Khalistan on their arrival here from Hamburg, West Germany.

Some incriminating documents and pro-Khalistan pamphlets showing a direct link between them and "Khalistani" movement, were seized from their possession, a highly placed airport security source said. The names of the two were given as Reshma Singh Monga Singh and Harbhajan Singh Ishwar Singh.

"Barring the incriminating documents, nothing objectionable was found when their baggages were checked by the security as we as intelligence officials," he said.

The documents indicated that both were activists and members of the "Khalistan National Council" since 1976 and had toured the world "to mobilise public opinion against the Indian Government and to bring pressure on it to accept the demand for a Khalistan state", the source said.

Reshma Singh and Harbhajan Singh confessed during interrogation that they had so far used hundreds of fictitious names and bogus passports and moved in countries like West Germany, the United States, Britain, Switzerland, the UAE, the Netherlands and Canada, he said.

On bosses' orders: They returned to India on the "orders of top Khalistani bosses" who asked them to try and establish contacts in the southern and northern states of the country to give a boost to the movement, they told the officials. Both of them had been arrested and jailed earlier in connection with several cognizable offences.

The two extremists first left India on 26 April, 1983, for Brussels and stayed there for four days before leaving for Hamburg. They are understood to have been in Delhi under disguise a few weeks

before the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi on 31 October last year, but left the country before the incident. The holiday court had remanded both of them to police custody, the source said.

This is the second incident of its kind during the current month. Immigration officers had arrested nine clean shaven youths of particular community on 1 June immediately on their arrival from Frankfurt.

PATRIOT Comments on Gandhi's Washington Visit

BK241330 Delhi PATRIOT in English 18 Jun 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Exposition India"]

[Text] Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to the U.S. has to be viewed from two levels: the personal performance, and the national objective. Of the first, it is no exaggeration to state that he has made a profound impact on his hosts and in the process has also impressed his countrymen. For a "reluctant politician" he has explained his country's principles and policies with succinctness and a verve that has won him admiration. He fulfilled the role of a leader of the nonaligned world to a nicety, using humour to dispel fixed notions and wishful thinking in the land where there are still enough people in power who think that nonalignment is "immoral"; that if you are not with us then you must definitely be in the Soviet camp. "We stand erect and independent," he told them and went on to explain, with geo-political markers, the principled logic of India's positions on a host of international issues ranging from Afghanistan, nuclear proliferation in South Asia, Nicaragua and the dismal global economic situation. He has been blunt, as in his rejection of the Reagan administration's pet project — the Star Wars paraphernalia — without giving offence. His sense of humour carried him triumphant through the tricky byways that the U.S. has long been in the habit of herding India into.

On the other, more important level he has left the U.S. and the world in no doubt about where India stands on global issues and the funny fact of it is that on such a crucial issue as Afghanistan on which is founded the entire U.S. strategy of rapid intervention in South Asia India has never endorsed Soviet presence in that country though we have been made to appear to be doing so. The sad part of it is that the pricking of that particular bubble is not likely to lead to any change in U.S. policy in South Asia. Neither will the U.S. exert itself over-much to prevent Pakistan from going nuclear — both factors that directly impinge upon India's security environment and economic development since, as the prime minister pointed out, the resultant arms race causes a diversion of scarce resources to acquiring military hardware to match what is being given to Pakistan on the pretext of creating a bulwark against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. That the U.S. intends to pursue its global ambitions undeterred by the principled objections of the nonaligned and the developing world was underscored by the decision to support the Contras in their clandestine war against the Sandinist Government in Nicaragua even while the prime minister was talking to U.S. leaders in Washington.

A word often used in the U.S. media is that the U.S. is trying to "woo" India. How and for what purpose, the prime minister would now be in a better position to analyse after a visit in which, acknowledgedly, the discussions were open and frank. The prime minister, in reaffirming Indian political and economic policy and the requirements of high technology for growth in specified sectors has put his cards on the table. It remains to be seen whether the U.S., which has always held India to be peripheral in its scheme of things, will decide to modify that policy and live up to its protestations of strengthening democracy around the globe. They have met a dynamic leader of a flourishing, and nonaligned democracy. It is for them to go half-way without trying to undermine the principles which he has enunciated so ably.

Ziaul Haq Sees Outgoing Indian Ambassador

BK241143 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] The outgoing Indian ambassador, Mr K.D. Sharma, made a farewell call on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq at the President House in Murree today. They exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Later, the outgoing ambassador attended a luncheon hosted by the president.

JASARAT Editorial Approves of Talks With USSR

GF241332 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 18 Jun 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Direct Talks With the Soviet Union"]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that Pakistan is ready to hold direct talks with the Soviet Union on the Afghanistan issue. In a recent interview with an American paper, Mr Junejo said that the Soviet Union is an important party in Afghanistan and that the outgoing Soviet ambassador to Pakistan also had opined that since Mr Junejo's government was an elected government, it could have talks with the Soviets.

We approve of the prime minister's suggestion of direct talks with the Soviet Union. Not only would this help the talks to achieve progress, but it may also help toward finding a final solution, since the Afghanistan issue was created by the Soviet Union which alone holds the key to its solution. The Karmal government is nothing but a puppet regime. The Soviet Union is the major party at the Geneva talks. It was under Soviet instructions that the Karmal regime took up these talks.

However, the talks at Geneva have borne no fruit. Therefore, it would be appropriate to hold direct talks with the Soviet Union to find out what it really wants out of these talks. We must learn from the Soviet Union how long it intends to keep matters on the boil, or in what manner it would like to settle the matter.

Commentary Hopes for Success in Geneva Talks

BK231422 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Hasan Kalimi commentary]

[Text] The fourth round of Geneva proximity talks on Afghanistan began on 20 June on an optimistic note. On the eve of talks, the UN intermediary, Mr Diego Cordovez, told newsmen that the two delegations of Pakistan and the Kabul regime would consider specific documents concerning definite instruments for the resolution of the Afghanistan problem. He said he was hopeful regarding talks because the instruments on the contemplated solution were based on documents which had the consent of the two sides.

Cordovez said he had been greatly encouraged by the reiteration of the two sides that they were committed to a political solution of this very complex problem. He emphasized that a desire for a political agreement was now greater than before.

The UN secretary general's special envoy on Afghanistan said the UN-sponsored talks were the only way which could lead to a solution, and added that some progress had been made in 1983 but then the position of the two sides hardened and subsequent procedural difficulties kept on delaying the talks. He said the very fact that the procedural obstacles have been overcome now was a positive development. Mr Cordovez pointed out that the new approach — which he had suggested to the two sides in August last year and which has made the Geneva talks possible — entailed a broad agreement covering all issues involved in this problem. He disclosed that procedural difficulties has become a major obstacle in getting the talks started but these impediments were overcome when he toured Pakistan and Afghanistan last spring.

The UN intermediary felt that the grounds for the talks this time have been prepared well and said it would have been a terrible mistake and a disaster to sponsor another round of proximity talks unless there was some hope. While talking about some factors which had made him hopeful, Mr Cordovez also made mention of the talks in Moscow between President Ziaul Haq and the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev at the time of late Mr Chernenko's funeral and pointed out that it was important that the two leaders agreed that there must be a political solution to this problem.

Mr Cordovez said he considered the attitude of the Iranian Government as positive under the circumstances. He said that Iran had also desired a political settlement of the Afghan problem and the kind of agreement which had been indicated by the Iranians conformed with the basis on which the proximity talks were held. Lastly, Mr Cordovez introduced a touching human element in his press talks by saying that his obligation on behalf of the UN was to persist for peace and it was more concerned with the people who were dying in Afghanistan rather than with the geopolitical situation in the area. He said it was important that the Afghan people must be allowed to get together in their own country.

Surely the fate of the Afghan people — who are dying, getting wounded and are suffering because of the war imposed by military intervention of a superpower in that country — must be the top concern of all freedom-loving people, as Mr Cordovez has pointed out.

Afghanistan today presents a signal example of what wars and war atrocities could do to a people. With continued air and ground operations involving modern weaponary, such as MIG's, MI-24 helicopter gunships, tanks and armored personnel carriers, plus the crack special purpose force, the units of [words indistinct] Soviet troops as deployed in recent Kunar Valley offensive, the poor Afghan people are being killed and decimated, their villages destroyed and their fields and orchards (?squashed). This ongoing process with all its (?lethal) and tragic dimensions is aimed at systematic genocide of the Afghans. It is either killing them wholesale or forcing the remaining ones to flee their land for safety in a neighboring country. What indeed adds extreme urgency to recourse for a political solution of the 6-year long Afghan crisis is this human element and this human suffering. And the human suffering today is more acute and more widespread in foreign occupied Afghanistan than anywhere else in the

world. The Afghans are bleeding more profusely than any other nation. The Afghans, therefore, need peace and tranquility more urgently than any other nation.

The search for the peace for the Afghans must, therefore, be the major concern of all those nations and of all those people who believe in human values and who think that man is more precious than [word indistinct] and all that goes with the man. It was for man, the crown of God's creation, that everything else was created. If man disappears what would remain on this earth but wilderness? Tragically, man is today fast disappearing from one patch of this earth that is called Afghanistan. Over 4.5 million people of this coutry's 14 million population have taken refuge in Pakistan, Iran and elsewhere; over 1 million have been killed and some 2 million turned into internal refugees fleeing the countryside and seeking shelter in cities inside that country. [Words indistinct] tragedy from coming to its [words indistinct], Pakistan has all along most sincerely worked for a political solution of the Afghan crisis and it is for this reason that the Pakistani delegation, led by its foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, is currently in Geneva. Pakistan wants to make the Geneva (?talk) a success, for, with its success are linked the hopes and aspirations of the suffering Afghans.

PAKISTAN TIMES on Indian Prime Minister's Tour

GF231802 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 17 Jun 85 P 6

[Editorial: "Rajiv's U.S. Visit"]

[Text] Although Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, planned his foreign itinerary with an eye on Russian susceptibilities and therefore decided to visit Moscow before going to Washington, the very fact that the leaderships of two such large countries outside the communist bloc would be exchanging views on important international issues was understandably enough a sufficient factor to arouse public interest. That the expectations of the two sides could not be and in fact never were, founded on similarities of perceptions regarding world events and problems was obvious from the outset.

Still, hopes lingered in the U.S. that the persuasive powers of U.S. diplomacy would manage to draw India a little away from the Russian orbit, specifically on Afghanistan, and the wish persisted on the Indian side that some high technology could be pried loose from the tight U.S. grip.

Such hopes and wishes, in case these were harboured at all, have, it seems now, not quite been fulfilled. Neither side has acknowledged this reality, though. The U.S. spokesmen in fact appeared to be consciously focussing on those parts of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's statements which lent themselves to a more favorable interpretation.

A State Department official, for example, said: "We are encouraged by the prime minister's comments on Afghanistan .... (who) correctly underlines the implications for regional peace and stability implicit in the continued conflict". In an earlier briefing the State Department spokesman found "Mr. Gandhi's statements as reflecting India's support for a negotiated settlement." Some U.S. congressional circles and the U.S. media, however, have failed to find any encouraging signs of a so-called "shift". ABC-TV's commentator said plainly that Mr. Rajiv's "foreign policy is still rooted in the past, he still raises the spectre of a hostile Paksitan and he still objects to American presence in the Indian Ocean."

Aside from these varying assessments or interpretations of Mr. Gandhi's policy statements, one has to take into account his own clarification offered at the National Press Club: "We've not changed our position on Afghanistan at all." Which, in other words means an implicit endorsement of the Russian position that they are there because of the uprising of the mujahidin.

That such an amorphous stance by India on a clear enough moral issue (of a superpower trying to subjugate a small non-aligned country) would damage India's own non-aligned status, apparently does not worry Mr. Gandhi.

What does seem to worry Mr. Gandhi, however, is the issue of supply of U.S. arms to Pakistan. This supply, though posing no threat to India, does cause, in Mr. Gandhi's words, diversion of funds "from development to defence." If that is the only worry that India has, then it can't be as ominous as Mr. Gandhi initially tried to make it out to be. And this is exactly what the American administration has been telling India: arms for Pakistan pose no threat to India.

Pakistan's position too stands vindicated on that score. Whether India was able to win any other concessions from the U.S. through such pressure ploys is not yet clear. The acquisition of high technology from the U.S., which the Indians reportedly were seeking, seems to have hit some snags. That, however, is a matter between the U.S. and India.

We in Pakistan feel no cause for concern on any such transfer of knowhow, nor even on any shipments of arms from the U.S. or from anywhere else. Why should we? Our position is that we want to live in peace with India and we are happy in its prosperity and well-being. India has as much right to get for itself what it deems to be necessary as Pakistan has. Why isn't this simple fact realised and appreciated by our Indian friends?

Mujahidin Attack Leaves 4 Soviets Dead

BK230400 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Jun 85

[Text] The freedom fighters in Afghanistan have attacked an important military garrison, Jabal os Saraj, on Salang Road connecting Afghanistan with the Soviet Union. News agency reports say this attack is part of operations launched by mujahidin in the beginning of this month. Meanwhile, diplomatic sources have confirmed the killing of two chief military officers in the Panjshir valley at the beginning of this month or at the end of last month. Another report says 18 officers and 4 Soviet advisers to the Afghan secret service were killed in rocket attacks on their (Khak) headquarters in Jalalabad on the 16th of this month.

BANGLADESH

Foreign Office Condemns Individual, State Terrorism

BK241603 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Excerpts] President Reagan has said the United States will not use military force to end the hijacking in Beirut. Talking to newsmen in Washington today, he said there is no link between the Israeli decision to free the 31 Shi'ite prisoners and the fate of the American hostages.

In Dhaka, a Foreign Office spokesman, commenting on the hijacking, said Bangladesh Government condemns all acts of individual and state terrorism in violation of international law and norms of civilized behavior. While expressing concern over continued detention of the remaining hostages and demanding their release, it also demanded the release of Lebanese prisoners from Israeli jail.

Daily Comments on Gandhi's Visit to U.S.

BK241631 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Jun 85 p 5

[Editorial: "A Difficult Equation"]

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi is now in Washington on his first ever visit to the U.S. This came in a sequence of his foreign tours beginning with the one of Soviet Russia. The intervening visits to capitals like Cairo and Paris form part of the travelling preliminaries connected with the most important of the visits, namely, Moscow in the East, and Washington in the West.

India occupies the most important geopolitical position in the South Asian spectrum. Which explains the interest the superpowers take in the way relations would grow mutually between them individually on one hand and India on the other. Indologists in the West as well as in the East have been at pains to assess the Indian kaleidoscope particularly as it reflects changes in the relations in the one or the other direction.

The visit is however more than a mere "getting acquainted" sort of thing. First as is the meeting for both Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Reagan, it is also an opportunity to sort out quite a few things that have long awaited elucidation and decision.

Geopolitically leaning to the East, India has strong reason to bend toward the West, economically. In fact, as has been plausibly speculated in relevant circles, one of the major themes of the visit is increased technological and commercial exchange between the two countries. As reported, already the Reagan administration has decided in principle to resume sales of advanced technology and military equipment to India. As a pressing need of the Indian economy, its expansion and modernisation, trade with the advanced industrialised nations has to grow together with the scope widening for foreign investment in the country. Mr. Gandhi's government has already taken a few significant measures to this end. If this is a purely bilateral aspect of the tour there are other aspects worth a close examination in a meeting of heads of states like this:

As expected Mr. Gandhi opened the talks with the U.S. supply of sophisticated arms to Pakistan and its nuclear programme. Mr. Gandhi has been harping on this for quite sometime over the months, which is interpreted by Pakistani leaders as an excuse for India producing a bomb of which India is already in possession of the necessary infrastructure. The Pakistani view of it, agreeing with the U.S, is that it is a vital defence need in view of the situation in Afghanistan.

In a recent statement the Foreign Affairs Minister of State of Pakistan came out with a clear rejection of Indian charges about Pakistan working on an atom bomb. Mr Reagan would need to make Mr. Gandhi see that American military and economic assistance to Pakistan is a necessity that cannot be called in question and need not be regarded as a threat to India. The common sense view of this mutual fear however is: Incomparably big and mighty as India is, the fear of Pakistan attacking it or becoming a real menace to it is next to absurd. As Pakistani and other analysts see it, this might be a red herring drawn across the present troubled internal Indian trail.

Much trumpeted as the idea of regional peace is in talks and forums, practical behaviour, actions and decisions tend to run counter to professions. How could we have peace in this region with the reported resumption of arms supply to India by the U.S. after a 20-year moratorium? According to military analysts Pakistan's acquisition of arms has been a necessity created by a war across the border and, and far as India is concerned she has already stock-piled armaments, chiefly supplied by Soviet Russia, that is thought to be out of proportion to her defence needs. Studies being carried on the imperatives of regional peace for the subcontinent stress the need for super-powers ceasing to supply arms on a scale that is in excess of requirement. According to them the ongoing normal defence-based armament acquisition will be turned into a febrile armament race, threatening peace most directly. The idea of such an escalation in arms-build-up, based on new supplies on a commercial scale, also contradicts the professed intentions of either the United States or India about peace in the region. As for the export of advanced military technology to India, America's conditions for the trade secrets being kept from flowing into undersirable quarters may practically be a difficult proposition. Nobody would think that the U.S. could be so naive as to think that it is not.

There is another spanner thrown into the works: Rajiv Gandhi would not compromise on the Afghan issue as he would not on that of U.S. arms supply to Pakistan. Afghanistan, after nearly 5 years of agony caused by foreign intervention, should, in fairness, be given a chance to decide its political destiny without any forces interfering with it. For India to have reservations in this regard is difficult to reconcile either with the non-align [as published] principle, democratic needs or the conditions and regional peace.

Straddling apparently two worlds (Eastern and Western) India may perhaps be wanting to make the best of both. If this is expediency at its toughest, many ask, would it pay off in the long run? Political anatomists point to the socio-political traditions

that have taken long root in the Indian polity, particularly the sustained democratic traditions and institutions. The latter are thought to be an argument more in favour of an independent, leading role assumed by India in the subcontinent to help create a climate and atmosphere of good will and good relations among the nations. External influences infiltrating into it (sub-continent with its neighbours) and allowing them to do so can hardly be a contribution to the foundation or consolidation of peace in this region.

NEPAL

Foreign Ministry Regrets Hijacking of TWA Plane

BK241513 Katmandu External Service in English 1445 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] His Majesty's Government has always condemned all acts of terrorism, including hijacking of aircraft and holding of innocent people as hostages, and has advocated the peaceful resolution of all international problems and has never sympathized with the political activities of (?forces) which practice terrorism, according to a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In keeping with this policy, His Majesty's Government regrets the hijacking of the TWA airliner Flight No. 847 and the holding of innocent passengers as hostages for the settlement of a problem, the press release said.

Home Ministry Spokesman on Bomb Investigation

BK241541 Katmandu External Service in English 1445 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] The Home Ministry spokesman has said that investigations into the terrorist activities are continuing satisfactorily. The spokesman said today, when asked about the investigations into the terrorists acts of last week and his majesty government's intentions, the terrorists were found to be operating from outside the country. The spokesman added that relevent organs of his majesty's government will keep in touch with Interpol and seek the cooperation of foreign governments if and when need arises.

A spokesman of the Ministry of Communication says news broadcast by foreign broadcasting stations [words indistinct] were found in and around Katmandu where a particular organization had claimed responsibility for the terrorist acts of last week had been found to be totally false. The spokesman said the (?allegations of) All India Radio broadcast of 22 June were particularly inaccurate.

Leader of Banned Congress Party Condemns Bombings

HK241330 Hong Kong AFP in English 1315 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] Katmandu, June 24 (AFP) — A leader of the banned Nepal Congress Party has condemned as barbaric and cowardly a series of bomb attacks in Nepal last week which killed eight people.

In a statement from the detention camp where he has been held since last month for trying to picket a government building during a civil disobedience campaign, party General Secretary Girija Prasad Koirala described the bombings as an "inhuman, barbaric and heinous act."

The bombings Thursday and Friday, the first such incidents in Nepal's history, have been claimed by two leftist groups, the People's Front and the United Liberation Militia.

Mr Koirala's statement also supported a Congress Party decision after the bombings to call off the civil disobedience campaign, which is calling for the scrapping of the current partyless system and a return to multi-party government, in the interests of national unity.

Meanwhile, more than 50 National Panchayat (parliament) members attacked Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand in a debate last night for not having received any information beforehand about the bombs. The critics, including former prime minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, called for Premier Chand to resign so that public confidence could be restored.

SRI LANKA

Foreign Minister Urges Release of TWA Hostages

BK251316 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, A.C. Shahul Hameed, issued a statement today on the hijacking of the TWA aircraft: The Government of Sri Lanka views with concern and distress the hijacking of the TWA aircraft and the holding of 40 passengers as hostages in Beirut. Sri Lanka is a signatory to The Hague and Montreal conventions on air piracy and has consistently rejected resorting to violence for the achievements of objectives. Hijacking of aircraft has brought untold miseries and sufferings and even deaths to innocent people. The lives of human beings should not be held to ransom by such cowardly acts of terrorism.

Mr Hameed adds that the Government of Sri Lanka appreciates and supports the efforts now being made by Lebanon and the United States to resolve this crisis peacefully and hopes that these efforts will result in the early release of the hostages.

Government, Tamil Forces Clash; 1 Killed

BK250327 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, there has been an outbreak of fighting between government forces and Tamil militants in the north-western part of the island. The militants attacked a hospital and opened fire on security forces. Reports say one militant was killed in the encounter.

This is the first report of a clash since the government announced last week that it has agreed for a cease-fire with the militant groups.

Curfew Relaxed in Jaffna, Other Districts

BK211341 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 21 Jun 85

[Text] The curfew has been relaxed in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaittivu, and Mannar and will now operate from 2000 to 0400. The curfew hours earlier in these districts were 1900 to 0400.

Prime Minister Praises Gandhi Peace Efforts

BK221003 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Text] The prime minister of Sri Lanka, Mr Premadasa, has praised Mr Rajiv Gandhi for his efforts to resolve the ethnic violence in the island. Addressing parliament, Mr Premadasa said it has paved the way for a settlement of the issue.

The national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, commending Mr Rajiv Gandhi's role in ending the violence, said that this gesture shows that India as a friend is concerned about Sri Lanka's unity and integrity.

Khomeyni Meets Families of Martyrs, POW's

LD241419 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] Families of those martyred on 7 Tir [28 June]; the family of the martyr Ayatollah Dr Beheshti; a group of families of martyrs, POW's and those missing from Esfahan and Tehran, from Khodaabad and Zahra Mosque areas; and a group of families of martyrs, POW's and those missing from the Tolaghan District of Qom met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning.

At this meeting Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Shahid Foundation, praised the self-sacrifices and selflessness of the families of martyrs and the people's unprecedented attendance in the ceremonies marking International Jerusalem Day. Then, pointing to the selflessness, patience and resistance of these dear people, he conveyed the imam's congratulations and condolences to them. At the end of this meeting Imam Khomeyni acknowledged the emotions expressed by the audience.

President Cables Muslim States on Iraqi Attacks

LD241339 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Excerpt] President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, in an International Qods Day message addressed to leaders and presidents of the countries of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Oman, Bahrain, Malaysia, Turkey, Syria, Mali, Algeria, Niger, Gambia, Nigeria, Gabon, Senegal, Cameroon, Tunisia, Indonesia, Qatar, Guinea, Mauritania, Benin, the YAR, the PDRY, Libyan and Lebanon, referred to the crimes committed by the Iraqi regime in attacking residential districts of the cities of our country, and asked for decisive action by Islamic countries to condemn the aggressive regime of Iraq.

Velayati Sends Message to ICO Head on Iraqi Attacks

LD231224 Tehran IRNA in English 1157 GMT 23 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 23, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Sunday sent a message to the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, Sharifuddin Pirzada, calling for more fundamental measures to be taken so as to halt Iraqi attacks on civilian areas.

The message noted that although with their massive participation in recent demonstrations Iranians proved their strong will to confront Iraqi aggression, this did not excuse international organizations' ignorance of their responsibility vis-a-vis Iraqi atrocities and crimes. In fact, the message read, the dimension of Iraqi infringement of international, Islamic and humanitarian regulations had reached the extent that further presence of the Iraqi representative in the organization was a disgrace for all Muslims.

The message deplored the ICO's failure in showing any response towards the resumption of Iraqi attacks on residential quarters, adding that this was so at a time when the organization's goodwill committee in its latest session had stressed the implementation of international regulations in safeguarding civilians.

The message hoped that more basic measures will be taken to halt Iraqi attacks on Iranian cities and also to condemn Baghdad regime's attacks on Iran while millions were taking part in the International Jerusalem Day demonstrations on June 14.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Returns From Syria 25 Jun

GF250606 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Majlis, along with his accompanying delegation returned to Tehran at 0430 this morning after concluding a 5-day visit to Libya and Syria.

According to the report, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who led a high-level political-military delegation, which included Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Islamic Revolution Guard Corps Rafiqdust, and a number of deputies of the Iranian Majlis, was seen off at Damascus airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president; Mahmud al-Zu'bi, speaker of the People's Assembly; Faruq al-Shar', Syrian foreign minister; and other high-ranking Syrian officials.

Before leaving Damascus, the Iranian Majlis speaker once again met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

During his stay in Libya and Syria, the Iranian Majlis Spaker met with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, president of Libya; 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolutionary Council; Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; and Mahmud al-Zu'bi, speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly. Various issues concerning the Islamic world and the region were discussed.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Visits Syria, Meets Al-Asad

For Damascus and Tehran reportage on Foreign Minister 'Ali Akhbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Syria, including coverage of his meetings with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and addresses concerning Syrian-Iranian relations and the hijacked TWA airliner in Beirut, please see the Syria section of the 24 June Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Montazeri Delivers Speech Marking 'Id al-Fitr

LD221256 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Excerpts] On the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr [end of Ramadan, 20 June] various classes of people, including a number of teachers from Tehran, Yazd, Meybod and Gilan-e Gharb, as well as a number of members of tribal mobilization from Gilan-e Gharb, Shahr-e Rey, Takestan and Yazdabad in Esfahan, accompanied by the employees and workers of Jerusalem Factory in Esfahan,

hundreds of inhabitants of Tabas and a number of students of Mazandaran University, were yesterday received by Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom.

Commenting on the nation-wide march by the nation on International Jerusalem Day, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: After the people's resistance during the different phases of the revolution and our combatants' resistance on the battlefronts, the Western and Eastern superpowers, who, for the time being, have assigned Saddam to defeat the Islamic Revolution, implemented their careful and calculated plan and launched their conspiracy, involving their missile and air strikes on our big cities and border towns. Their prediction, based on prejudicial reports and imaginary analyses of the Hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and others, was that by attacking the towns and defenseless people they would weaken the people's resolve, thus forcing them to surrender to the demands of the enemies of Islam and Saddam in no time at all. The march, however, which was in fact a reaffirmation of the movement, order and the revolution of the person of the leader, served as a crushing blow to the enemies of Islam. The march therefore negated the great conspiracy hatched by the superpowers and their lackeys, including that of Saddam's.

Having said that, the country's officials must appreciate the significance of these self-sacrificing and ever-alert people and prepare themselves to serve them and meet their needs; and if there exist any weaknesses, lethargy, mismanagement and errors the officials must not make use of the march to conceal their sore spots and mistakes, assuming that the nation is not alert to such sore spots and mistakes.

In view of the fact that our nation believes in and adheres to Islam, the revolution, the Islamic Republic order and the great leadership of the revolution and also opposes the oppression and crimes being committed by the superpowers, their lackeys and international Zionism as well as the occupation of Jerusalem, whenever it notices any danger or threat either from the West or the East against its sanctity it takes to the streets and, just as in the early days of the revolution, defends and protects Islam and the revolution and demonstrates its opposition to criminals and traitors.

Consequently, this requires us to think of the nation, which shows such readiness to get involved in struggle and defense, and give more thought to serving the nation. We must take steps to make the various administrative and security as well as revolutionary organizations of the country satisfy the people's needs as much as possible. We must take steps to avoid wasting the people's time by referring them from one official to another or one department to another for a simple task; something which, regrettably, has become routine.

Addressing the individuals in certain departments who create obstacles for the revolution and cause dissatisfaction and discontent for the people, he said: To whatever group or process you belong you must remember that you have no popular base. Your leaders have colluded with the superpowers and Saddam, this criminal of history. It is through their views, reports and analyses that our dear compatriots are being martyred and injured by Saddam and by means of the sophisticated weapons made available to him by the East and the West. You must not assume that by causing discontent among the people in various government departments and by creating more dissatisfaction you will be able to come to power one day and be accepted by the people.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, addressing provincial officials, emphasized: You must treat the people and various classes in a pleasant manner and with kindness. Obviously, one expects offenders and guilty ones among the people. However, the point is that they must not be treated with vengeance. Moreover, you must not, God forbid, indulge in kicking someone who is down, while the big fish and the rich manage to get away from being punished.

He then reminded them: If you are to detain, try, interrogate or imprison offenders you must remember to adopt a humanitarian ethic, divorced from vengeance and anger. You must try to practice forgiveness and turn a blind eye to trivial matters which harm no one.

Decision on Detained Kuwait Ship To Be Made

LD241927 Tehran IRNA in English 1918 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — An official told IRNA here today that the Iranian Government would "take a proper decision" in relation with the Kuwaiti-registered cargo vessel *Al-Muharraq* after "a scrutinized inspection" of her cargo. He said the Iranian Navy had good reason to suspect the vessel (at the Strait of Hormuz on Thursday) whose cargo he said was to be sent to Iraq. The official said the vessel had been intercepted in accordance with an earlier warning by Iran.

He said the Iraqi Government has been provided access to the ports of the occupied Palestine and Jordan for delivery to Iraq of armaments since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war and that the Islamic Republic cannot allow the Baghdad regime to use the Persian Gulf waters for importing arms in addition to other routes already available to it.

The Kuwaiti-registered cargo vessel has been at Iran's territorial waters since it was intercepted by Iranian boats on Thursday.

Iraq Declines Comment on Arms Found in Embassy

LD181829 Tehran IRNA in English 1759 GMT 18 Jun 85

[Text] Islamabad, June 18, IRNA — As people in Bahrain and in other Persian Gulf states continue guessing and commenting on the disclosure of seventeen trunkful of arms and explosives in the Iraqi Embassy in Manama, the Iraqi Embassy officials yet decline to comment on the story. Iraqi Embassy staffers in Manama are also warned against talking to outsiders in relation with the issue.

An informed source said to IRNA here that immediately after the news was published the embassy officials have prevented entry to the embassy by any person other than its regular staffers.

Last year, too, the Iraqi Embassy in Manama smuggled in some fire arms and weapons which were seized at the airport customs.

Foreign Media Coverage of Jerusalem Day Refuted

[*Editorial Report*] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 0400 GMT on 21 June carries on its regular program "Review of Foreign Radios" a discussion of the marches and demonstrations on Jerusalem Day. A number of foreign radios are quoted as having said during the past few weeks that the bombing of residential areas has demoralized Iranians and turned a large number of people against the war. Some of the threats of the Iraqi radio calling on the people to leave Tehran because Iraq was planning to use more deadly bombs are also quoted.

It is noted that despite all these threats and all the propaganda about the weakening of the resolve of the Iranians to continue the war, more than 5 million people demonstrated in the streets of Tehran calling for the continuation of the war until final victory. Although foreign radios have tried to belittle the number of those who took part in the demonstrations, the united participation of the people in those demonstrations forced foreign radios to admit that the Iranians have not tired of continuing the war, and that the Iraqi regime also announced that it is going to stop the bombings for 2 weeks, because they realized that the bombs have not weakened the resolve of the Iranians.

The announcer says: "The multimillion-strong demonstrations of the Muslim Iranians, despite all those threats, gave the most appropriate response to the the programs and propaganda of the Zionist enemy." The announcer adds: "The demonstrations of our Muslim people on Jerusalem Day contained many messages. On that day with their solid ranks our people said their final words. They demonstrated to the palace-dwelling criminals that not only their morale has not weakened; but, on the contrary, under the most threatening and dangerous conditions, like a powerful dam they are prepared to defend Islam and the Islamic Republic of Iran; and will never forsake the success which they have achieved through self-sacrifice and devotion as the result of the pressures exerted by the enemies. To them Islam is too precious to be surrendered and it is impossible to sever the profound link and bond which exists between our people and God, and the imams with bombs and missiles."

Daily Closed for Lacking Publication Permit

LD241327 Tehran IRNA in English 1309 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — The *SOBH-E AZADEGHAN* daily was closed down Monday on the orders of Tehran's general prosecutor for lacking publication permit. One of the staff of the paper told IRNA that their efforts to have the paper published is already under way. He expressed the hope that *AZADEGHAN* will be at the news stands as soon as possible.

Gendarmerie Commander Reports Smuggled Goods Seized

LD241908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] In an exclusive interview with our correspondent this afternoon, Colonel Mohammad Sohrabi, the new commander of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, gave some details about the activities of the gendarmerie over the past 3 months, the methods used for controlling the borders and highways throughout the country during the summer, and new discoveries made by the personnel of the gendarmerie.

First, he referred to the activities of gendarmerie personnel in the fronts and in confronting the counterrevolutionaries, and said: Side by side with other fighting forces, gendarmerie personnel are also fighting on the fronts of light against darkness. They also have considerable experience of confronting counterrevolutionaries in the country, especially in Kordestan and Orumiyeh regions.

Col Sohrabi added: The self-sacrificing personnel of the gendarmerie in an armed clash in Sistan and Baluchestan region yesterday and today succeeded in seizing more than 218 large packages known as dageneh containing various types of smuggled goods, including 500,000 packets of Winston cigarettes and smuggled clothing with a total value of 500 million rials, and arrested the smugglers.

Concerning border security, the commander of the gendarmerie said: In this connection, cultural, propaganda, and development measures by the ministries of the Crusade for Reconstruction, Roads and Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Islamic Revolution committees are being carried out. Together with these measures the reinforcing and reequipping of the border guards is also actively progressing.

Kurd Operations Against Iraqi Regime Detailed

GF240601 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] In retaliation for the Saddamist air raids on the refugee camps and expelled Iraqi Kurds in the town of Ziveh, western Iraq, the Muslim Iraqi Kurds have carried out operations against the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling in Iraq. They destroyed 6 bases in northern Iraq and killed and wounded more than 150 Saddamists. They also damaged their military equipment and materiel.

The Central News Bureau of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran has learned that Muslim Iraqi Kurds carried out a commando operation which resulted in the killing of the security chief of the city of Quch in the Mosul governorate.

While they monitored the Mosul-Dahak highway, the Muslim Kurdish revolutionaries also set fire to three vehicles of the Iraqi regime and killed eight occupants.

Tehran Reports on Afghan Mujahidin Operations

GF241626 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries on 16 June launched an attack against the intelligence palace of the Karmal command in the city of Jalalabad, killing 4 Soviet experts and 18 government intelligence officers. In another operation, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed 11 troops of the regime ruling in Afghanistan.

Reports coming from Afghanistan say that the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries also attacked a strategic base on (?Herat) mountain on Salang Road which links Afghanistan with the Soviet Union, killion or wounding 400 government troops. The reports add that the Muslim revolutionaries captured during the month 160 troops of the Babrak Karmal regime.

Tehran Reports IRGC Statement to Iraqi Immigrants

LD241616 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in a statement addressed to Iraqi brothers who have immigrated and are residing in Iran announced: The combat units of the Iraqi mobilization force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps on the fronts of the war waged by right against wrong need advanced and ordinary level drivers, welders, electricians, and mechanics. Volunteers can report to Iraqi mobilization force offices of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps at mobilization of the oppressed units in Karaj and Shahr-e Rey or (Malek Ashtar) base situated on Khavaran Street in Tehran so that steps can be taken to send them directly to the 9th Badr Brigade which consists of Iraqi brothers.

Continuing Reportage, Comment on War With Iraq

Armed Forces Mobilized

LD240929 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] According to Central News Unit IRNA reports, popular combatant forces continued leaving for the battlefront of war against the Zionist enemy. In the course of the past 2 days a large group of brethren of the Basij and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps forces of the provinces of eastern Azarbayjan, Hormozgan and Khorasan, and the towns of Amol, Babol, Sarvestan and Marand, set off for the fronts of the war of justice against injustice. They were given a warm send-off by their families and the inhabitants of their towns.

Military Successes Reported

LD241718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] A tribal unit from our Islamic homeland, supported by the artillery fire of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, carried out an audacious attack yesterday against a garrison situated in the northwestern region of Iraq. In this operation, in addition to inflicting heavy losses upon the supply depots and ammunition dumps of the enemy garrison, our forces killed or wounded more than 150 of the Saddamist forces and then returned safely to their bases.

According to a report of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the western operational fronts yesterday the fighters of Islam opened fire on enemy positions and, in addition to destroying six of the enemy's trenches and observation posts, killed or wounded nine Iraqi aggressors. According to the same report, in the southern operational sectors the heroic personnel of the gendarmerie destroyed six trenches, two observation posts, and one ammunition dump belonging to the Saddamist forces. They also killed more than three of the Saddamist forces. During the exchange of fire between our forces and the enemy in the northwestern fronts yesterday, as a result of long-range Iraqi artillery fire directed against Davud-Abad and Mamak-abad villages in Sardasht, two of our compatriots were martyred and two others were wounded.

The report of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran also states that during the past 24 hours all air violations by the Iraqi forces were repulsed and neutralized by the self-sacrificing personnel of the Air Force and the antiaircraft units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iraq Shells Abadan

GF241800 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] According to the correspondent of the Central News Unit, mercenaries of the Ba'thist Zionist regime of Iraq during the past 24 hours have continued their shelling of the steadfast city of Abadan with their heavy long-range artillery. As a result of these attacks one of our civilian compatriots has been wounded and two houses have been damaged.

50 Iraqis Killed

LD242032 Tehran IRNA in English 2020 GMT 24 Jun 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., June 24, IRNA — At least fifty Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded as one Iraqi battalion launched an aborted attack on the Iranian troops in Al-Kassarah early Monday morning where the recent Qods operations were conducted by the Iranian forces in the southern fronts.

In related report an Army commander directing military operations at the Qods offensive said here today that the launching pads of Iraq's surface-to-air missiles at Al-Juhari west of the Tigris River have been heavily pounded by Iran's artillery fire.

In the wake of the Qods offensive this month an area of about 150 square kms north of Hawr al-Hawizah inside the Iraqi territory were liberated by Iran's Muslim fighters. The penetration of the Iranian troops west of the border provides the Iranian forces with highly better position for pounding enemy outposts east of the river and the Basra-Al-'Amarah highway.

Nejat-e Iran: Soviet Workers Return to Moscow

GF211814 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jun 85

[Text] The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent reports that 800 Soviet citizens who were engaged in various projects such as the construction of dams, wiremaking, or who were working at power stations and the steel complex in our country, have left Tehran for Moscow.

Our correspondents had earlier informed our dear listeners of the transfer of Esfahan steel mill workers from Iran but in yesterday's telephone conversation we heard that following the departure of the Soviet steel mill workers, last week about 250 Soviets workers from the power stations also left for the Soviet Union.

Nejat-e Iran: Ayatollah Qomi Group, Guards Clash

GF221806 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent in Mashhad, at 0530 on 'Id al-Fitr [0200 GMT on 20 June] a large group of followers of His Holiness Grand Ayatollah Qomi gathered outside his residence at Hammamshah alley forming dense lines to hold 'Id prayers. They asked Ayatollah Qomi to lead the prayers even if he had to use a loudspeaker. The number of followers filling the alley increased with every passing minute. The [words indistinct] guards who have Ayatollah Qomi's house under surveillance and control all visitors asked for help and attempted to close Hammamshah alley and Shahreza Avenue to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The people who had gathered in the alley started reading verses from God's holy book and chanting "God bless Mohammad and all his followers" and urging the ayatollah to lead the prayers.

As the size of the crowd increased, so did the harsh behavior of the guards. Arguments broke out which then led to clashes between the guards and people. The guards then attempted to disperse the crowd by firing into the air. Ayatollah Qomi, using a loudspeaker, asked the people to leave in order to avoid further clashes. The angry crowd respected his request and left the area. Thus, a gathering which was heading toward an angry clash ended without bloodshed. However, dozens of Ayatollah Qomi's followers were arrested in the incident, including the son of the late Grand Ayatollah Shirazi, Seyyed Mohammad Shirazi.

Our correspondent adds that during the brief clash some 18 people were wounded and are receiving treatment in Mashhad hospitals.

Nejat-e Iran on Islamic Movements Office

GF281844 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Jun 85

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent in Tehran, the office for Islamic movements in the Foreign Ministry officially started its work last week. It is headed by a mulla from Pakistani origin. Sources close to the Foreign Ministry report that the department is charged with exporting Khomeyni's revolution to the Middle East, the subcontinent, Africa, the Far East, and (?Palestine). Its formation and goals were originally approved by Ruhollah Khomeyni. Giving aid to clandestine or overt Islamic movements and (?Muslim extremists) across the world including (?propaganda) among U.S. blacks is the responsibility of this office using its diplomatic privileges.

Our correspondent also noted that the new office has the cooperation of the regime's embassies around the world. The Martyrs' Foundation and 'Alavi Foundation are to pay the costs. The department will expand very rapidly and is to have a massive publication department with translators being hired by embassies who speak the national and regional languages of the target countries.

Two confiscated publishing houses in Tehran located in [names indistinct] avenues will be given to the department. They will be used to publish millions of documents to promote Shi'ism and revolution.

The head of the department is a former resident of London and a number of African countries.

Nejat-e Iran Reports Arrest of Khorasan Commander

GF231902 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Jun 85

[Text] According to our correspondent in Mashhad, as a result of differences between the commander of Khorasan's armored forces and Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi, the commander has been arrested for refusing to accept an attack order to be carried against [name indistinct] on the order of Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi.

Radio of Iranian Toilers on Prison Abuses

LD221521 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Summary] We hear shocking and worrying news from Tehran. The regime has mobilized all its forces to annihilate Tudeh Party members who are in prison. "A statement issued in this connection by the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran says [words indistinct] that the lives of dozens of Tudeh Party members are being threatened. We have received extremely worrying news from prisons. Members of the Tudeh Party of Iran are living under extraordinarily difficult conditions."

Judicial officials are reported to be subjecting our imprisoned comrades to savage treatment, using all sorts of psychological and physical tortures. "A number of our comrades have either been martyred or transferred to prison hospitals following the executioners' tortures.

Also, officials prevent prisoners from meeting their families, who have been kept in the dark about their condition." The trials of our comrades are held in camera. "Hundreds of party members have already been secretly sentenced to death for defending freedom, independence, social justice, and peace as well as defending the interests of toilers."

The Central Committee calls on international bodies and organizations, including the United Nations, to continue their efforts to save our comrades who are in prison. We condemn the regime and appeal to Iranians to protest such acts by the regime.